

What is claimed is:

1. A system for monitoring a patient, comprising:
 - a) one or more patient monitoring units;
 - 5 b) an electronic module unit to receive data of the one or more monitoring units;and
 - c) a computer unit for receiving and analysis of data from the module.
- 10 2. The system of claim 1 wherein the system comprises a plurality of monitoring units.
3. The system of claim 1 or 2 wherein the module unit digitizes received data.
- 15 4. The system of any one of claims 1 through 3 wherein the computer unit receives data in real-time from the one or more monitoring units.
- 20 5. The system of any one of claims 1 through 4 wherein the computer unit is in data communication with remotely located electronic patient records.
6. The system of any one of claims 1 through 5 wherein the computer unit is in data communication with a remote caregiver.
- 25 7. The system of any one of claims 1 through 6 wherein a data handshaking methodology exists for data transfer between the module unit and computer unit.
8. The system of any one of claims 1 through 7 wherein the module unit and computer unit are mounted on a movable cart unit.

9. The system of any one of claims 1 through 8 wherein the module unit does not comprise a display or user interface.

5 10. The system of any one of claims 1 through 9 wherein system components are hardwired.

11. The system of any one of claims 1 through 10 wherein one or more system components transmit data wirelessly.

10 12. A method for monitoring a patient, comprising:

a) providing a monitoring system comprising i) one or more patient monitoring units; ii) an electronic module unit to receive data of the one or more monitoring units; and iii) a computer unit for receiving and analysis of data from the module.

15 b) the one or more monitoring units providing data to the module unit; and

c) the module unit providing digitized data to the computer unit.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the system comprises a plurality of monitoring units.

20 14. The method of claim 12 or 13 wherein the computer unit receives data in real-time from the one or more monitoring units.

25 15. The method of any one of claims 12 through 14 wherein the computer unit is in data communication with remotely located electronic patient records.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the computer unit is in direct data communication with remotely located electronic data record without an interposed server.

17. The method of any one of claims 12 through 16 wherein data produced by the one or more monitoring units is stored in electronic patient records without manual recordation of the data.

5 18. The method of any one of claims 12 through 17 wherein data produced by the one or more monitoring units is transmitted from the computer unit directly without use of a server unit.

10 19. The method of any one of claims 12 through 18 wherein data produced by the one or more monitoring records is stored in electronic patient records in real-time of generation of the data.

15 20. The method of any one of claims 12 through 19 wherein the computer unit is in data communication with a remote caregiver.

21. The method of any one of claims 12 through 20 wherein a caregiver adjusts function of the one or more monitoring units via the computer unit.

20 22. The method of any one of claims 12 through 21 wherein the module unit and computer are used for analysis of physiological data of multiple patients.

23. The method of any one of claims 12 through 22 wherein data is transferred between the module unit and the computer unit with a handshaking protocol.

25 24. The method of any one of claims 12 through 23 wherein a user manipulates the computer unit in an open architecture computing platform.

25. The method of any one of claims 12 through 24 wherein a user manipulates the computer unit in Windows, WindowsCE, Palm, or Linux.

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27. The method of any one of claims 12 through 26 wherein the module unit does not comprise a display or user interface.

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29. The method of any one of claims 12 through 27 wherein data is transmitted wirelessly between system components.